

THE CHINA MAIL.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, 11th OCTOBER, 1886.

MARRIAGE.

At the Roman Catholic Cathedral, by the Revd. Father Brogazzi, and at St. John's Cathedral, by the Revd. John Wilson, Chaplain, Henry Jous, of Hongkong, to Miss Winstanley, of Manchester, England.

DEATHS.

At the Gaid Hospital, Hongkong, on the 1st October, WILLIAM SMITH, Seaman, unemployed.
At the Gaid Hospital, Hongkong, on the 1st October, JOHN DENNIS, Seaman, unemployed.
On Board the ship *Fenicia*, on the 24th Oct., EDWARD J. JONES, Seaman.
At the Seamen's Hospital, Hongkong, on the 24th Oct., GEORGE BUCHANAN, Engineer, aged 35 years.
At the Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, on the 25th Oct., CHARLES MCKENZIE, Seaman, unemployed.
On Board the ship *Madeline*, on the 28th Oct., MISS ALICE CAMPBELL, M.D., 11, N.S. Street, aged 25 years.
At Hongkong, on the 31st Oct., CHARLES WATTS, Quartermaster, 11, M.S. Street, aged 28 years, found drowned.
At the Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, on the 11th October, RICHARD CHAMBERS, Seaman, unemployed, aged 25 years.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

THE amount of hostile feelings provoked at Peking by the ostentatious building of a French Roman Catholic Church in close proximity to the Imperial palace, referred to by our Tientsin correspondent in the last issue of the *China Mail*, is corroborated by reports current among the native traders here and at Canton, whose version of the affair runs to the effect that the French have demanded Yuen-ming-yuen as the site for a Cathedral. From the rapid dissemination of these reports it is evident that deep feelings are entertained on the subject by the Chinese, and from the fact that they have reached Chinese circles at a distance of more than a thousand miles from the capital they may be considered as based upon fact.

An amusing extract which we give below, from the *N. C. Daily News*, will tend to show how far the Chinese in Britain have profited by the knowledge of foreigners fondly supposed by some to have been spread abroad by the intercourse which has lately subsisted between them:

"The doom of foreign residents (says the *North China Daily News*) in China is evidently sealed. A *jekeu* has been proclaimed against them in Hunan, and they are to be swept from the face of the Flowery Land. Their country is fifty thousand li from China, beyond a triple ocean; from that distance their lives cannot be avenged, so the village elders are invited to collect the populations to exterminate them. This is the purport of an address, that has been extensively circulated through Hunan and the adjacent provinces; whether emanating from a too enthusiastic patriot or from a tea-man who has made a bad bargain, it is difficult to determine. In either case it has obtained wide notoriety. Feeling, of course, quite careless as to its origin or effect, foreigners will still peruse the proclamation itself. Their presence in Fokien and Chekeang, in Kiangsoo and Shan-tung, and above all their invasion of the metropolis, is galling certainly; but their subversion of the morals of the people by inculcating a new religion, is insisted on as the great grievance. 'Those who have come to propagate religion, enticing and deluding the ignorant masses,' are the prominent objects of attack. We are evidently indebted in a great measure to missionary teaching for the sweeping denunciations in the proclamation, and the exhortations to indiscriminate massacre which it conveys."

The Recorder has some sensible remarks on the present state of officialdom in China. We extract a few sentences which make us congratulate ourselves that we in Hongkong have not to deal with Chinese authorities. Really the contemptible policy pursued by us for the last few years in giving way on almost every conceivable topic is likely to land us in a fine place at last.

Nearly eighteen months have elapsed since a number of merchants, who had sent funds hence into the interior for the preparation and purchase of tea, had their property plundered from them by revolted braves at *Tsun-nung-hua*, and not one cent of the losses has as yet been made good to them. Application to the British Consul only results in the information that the local authorities have been ordered by the Foreign Office at Peking to look into the claims in communication with the Consul, and to report in how far they are valid and need to be entertained, but that the Viceroy insists upon satisfying himself in the first instance by preliminary investigations to be made upon the spot, and that until these shall have been brought to a conclusion, he will not consent to the Taotai's entering upon the subject with the Consul. The latter functionary repeatedly enquired whether the preliminary investigations are approaching a close, and has as often been put off by a vague reply. It is a fair subject of speculation how it comes to pass that claims apparently so well founded, and pressed by so potent a power as H. M. Minister at Peking, are not only not paid by the Chinese Government, after a lapse of more than twelve months, but are absolutely not entertained by their executive, notwithstanding the necessary injunctions

have been given for a thorough investigation into them. The truth is, we believe, that a Chinese mandarin is a Chinese mandarin all over China, no matter what his rank or sphere of action, and that a prime minister at Peking, is, in his proneness to deceive, shuffle, and evade, as a general principle, and shirk his obligations where a foreigner is concerned, as a special instinct, the very counterpart of the lowest magistrate of any provincial district."

There may be some truth in this latter sentence, but we fancy our own authorities are somewhat to blame for the dilatory manner in which they press claims upon the Chinese government. Had we a man of action at Peking we might do something, but alas! our representative lives upon the credit of past vigour. One comfort is that his masterly inaction will lead us into another war, which will precipitate the settlement of matters in full. Otherwise we have but a dreary look out.

The Recorder also gives utterance to a doleful lament over the altered condition of the "model settlement." Quoth our lugubrious contemporary: "It is much to be feared that the days of Shanghai glory have passed away, never to return. Hope deferred has indeed made the heart sick. Year after year the residents in this place fondly imagined they had arrived at the worst; but each year has proved worse than its predecessor, and the rapid strides in prosperity and importance which it was thought would cause Shanghai to outstrip Calcutta have proved to be but an evanescent dream. The bubble has burst and has been followed by a long train of disasters from which it must take us a very long time to recover." We hope things are not quite so bad at Shanghai as this extract seems to indicate.

So much for Shanghai. From NANKING native reports come to hand speak of disturbances among the soldiery in the provincial capital. After having dissipated their wages in gambling, the men have taken to squeezing and robbing the inhabitants, with a view to recruit their funds. The viceroys has beheaded 54 men convicted of this eccentricity.

The residents at Hankow are beginning to turn their attention to recreation; now that dry land has returned and drill, rifle-shooting, fives, cricket and paper-hunting are alluded to by the *Hankow Times*, with the remark that there is little doubt they "will manage to exist and be tolerably jolly, notwithstanding their isolation," and the derision of Shanghai friends, who say there is nothing worth living for in Hankow.

From the Coast ports there is little of interest. A sad list of wrecks comes to us from Formosa. At other places everything seems quiet.

In Hongkong there is nothing of special interest to report except the audience granted to the Chinese deputation against the Stamp Act and other Ordinances. The Governor's answer is a masterpiece—courtly where answer is due to any reasonable representations; but stern and English—English of the time when England was feared by other nations—in the way it deals with the rascals who would make respectable Chinese its tools to beg that the laws against it be not enforced.

Before handing his reply to the Deputation the Governor took measures to impress upon its members the propriety of observing the same Rules as to presentation of Memorials and Addresses, as were imposed on Residents in other Colonies. The misstatements which had had general currency relative to the brief interview on the 5th ultimo, sufficiently proved the impropriety of departing from the usual practice in such cases. The reply was then handed to the deputation by His Excellency—printed both in English and Chinese.

Murders have become unpleasantly frequent here of late, three having taken place in as many weeks. The *Luhra* pirates are, as yet, mostly at large but strong hopes are entertained of catching them.

The shipping branch of the Harbour Master's department has been transferred to the Sailor's Home, which we hope to the advantage of that institution.

We understand that yesterday His Excellency gave audience to the Commissioner Pin-tai-lao ye, and Mr. Secretary Bowra, on their return from their European travels. The interview was a very cordial one, on both sides, we are informed. The Commissioner is now en route to Peking to lay before the Emperor the result of his mission. We hope his report will gain publicity.

A proclamation has been issued at Canton by the Viceroy and Governor, admonishing the inhabitants of certain interior districts against the crime of infanticide, and urging the establishment of local asylums for Foundlings on the model of that at Canton. The Chinese troops intended to suppress the row now going on between the Hah-kai and the Pun-ti clans left Canton on the 6th. If they fight as "imposingly," as they took the disturbed district will very soon be quieted so far as the rows between the turbulent clans are concerned.

At Macao the coolie business is in a flourishing state. Three vessels have ere

this left since the present season has opened with their living freights for Havana and Peru, and 23 ships are now on the berth. Giving each vessel an average of 350 Coolies, no less than upwards of 9100 Chinamen were despatched within the next two or three months to the West Coast of South America and Cuba alone. Quite a number of laborers will probably also leave during the present year for Demerara and Trinidad.

THE MINT AND THE COINAGE.

The Commission appointed to decide upon the fortunes of the Mint—for such is virtually their office if their recommendations be attended to—have a question of vast importance with which to deal. We do not allude to the effects of the Mint's continuance or abolition, so far as Hongkong itself is concerned, though to colonists that question is quite sufficient to give matter for reflection and conversation for some time. The real importance of the Hongkong mint, looked at from a broader point of view than that merely concerning the revenues of the colony, lies in the effect it is to have upon China and Japan generally. So true is this that it may safely be asserted that, so far as Hongkong itself is concerned, there is no difficulty which cannot be got over by compulsory legislation. Granted that outsiders refuse to receive the new dollar, it would be much the same as the present system amongst inland Chinese of preferring *gyee* to Mexican dollars. And soon as the Chinese discover that the new dollar contains, as it does, half a penny weight more of pure silver than the standard Mexican of 7.1.7, it will be accepted as bullion quite as readily. To ensure this however the Chinese demand the right of defacing it at pleasure—drilling holes in, punching, filing and otherwise spoiling the appearance of Her Majesty's face and its smoking-cap surroundings, to the loss both of look and value. Once made the exchange of old for new dollars compulsory, without forbidding the chop, and the new coins in a more or less defaced state would rapidly be absorbed into the circulation. The first practical difficulty which meets one is, however, the question,—"Given the compulsory law—given the requisite quantity of bullion and Mexicans for conversion into new dollars and the requisite coining power at the mint—who is to pay the cost of the conversion?" A compulsory law could of course only extend to making people exchange Mexicans at the intrinsic value. This done the Mint has gained nothing, and the charge of conversion has yet to be provided for. It has been suggested that the dollars called in should come only through the Colonial treasury; the question is, will the seigniorage on coining silver bullion pay the expenses both of coining that bullion and called in Mexicans? If the question be confined to Hongkong alone, the warmest supporters of the Mint must emphatically answer *No*. The Mint can only be worked at a profit by obtaining so large an amount to coin with seigniorage, that the money thus earned will cover both its expenses for coining such bullion, as well as those incurred for the conversion of the Mexicans now in circulation into new and lawful Hongkong dollars.

The only way in which the Mint can thus be made a paying establishment is by securing for it a large amount of external business. To this end the coin must be made popular amongst the Chinese, so that it shall be sought after on account of its intrinsic value and freedom from liability to debasement or imitation. But a few days since we published the opinions given by some well known experts amongst the Chinese, and would to those remarks only add a practical suggestion which may be of use. The Chinese complain, as we said, that the new dollar can be both debased and imitated. Very well, let a couple of dollars be handed to two of the most expert silver smiths here and at Canton, say Lee Ching and Hoa Ching for example, with instructions to engage the services of the cleverest "smashers" or coiners whom they can get hold of. Tell them that no questions will be asked, and that a moderate expense will not be grudged on condition of their bringing back within a specified time four other dollars—two debased and two spurious, which will deceive the eye and touch of ordinarily intelligent shroffs when handed to them mixed with other dollars. If their experiment is successful, a first step will have been taken to discover the weak points of the present coin, and the next would be to ascertain what peculiarities in coinage present the greatest difficulties to these ingenious gentry.

We lay much stress on this matter from a conviction that the Mint can only succeed from its dollars being accepted readily by the Chinese. The Government is hardly likely to undertake the task of recollecting the present Mexicans at its own cost, trusting to chance that a coin avowedly unpopular will hereafter become a necessity in China. We have of course written on the presumption that the Mint will be made equal to any demands upon its powers, but as this is only a matter of mechanical detail it does not seem to call for any special remark. If it can be proved that it will pay to coin dollars, machinery can easily be provided.

We find the following paragraph in the *Strait Times* of September 22:—"Captain Manner of the Bremen barque *Isabelle*, reports having spoken the British barque *Bessie Stanton*, of London, Captain Cole, from Newport bound to Hongkong, 104 days out; crew consisting of Turks, Austrians, and Greeks in iron for nothing." Some of the crew, it is meant, are in iron; if all were in that position the arrival of the *Bessie Stanton* would be indefinitely extended.

THE CHINESE AND THE ORDINANCES.

The Governor's reply to the Chinese deputation who on Saturday presented their various objections to the Ordinances, ought to convince the Chinese residents that obedience to English legislation is an indispensable condition of their living and carrying on business here. We need not supplement His Excellency's reply by any observations of our own. It marks a turning point in the policy which has for some years past been observed towards China, and being therefore elevated above the region of ordinary common place local topics, is a state paper of unusual significance, for the Chinese Government to consider, and for the instruction of home politicians who are under the erroneous impression that the interests of Great Britain in this quarter of the world can be protected or promoted by measures that obtain among the more civilized communities of other countries. It is obvious now that the feeling the Chinese here have lately manifested against recent legislation, does not spring from mere apprehension about the Stamp Act, but from dread of the consequences which are contemplated by other Ordinances. It is now known that His Excellency is in earnest in his declared intention to suppress piracy and to bring under proper subordination the large Chinese population of the island. When this is effected, the Chinese government may be asked to perform their part of the mutual obligations imposed by the Treaty in respect of piracy, and of other nefarious practices common among the Chinese. That is a duty which they have hitherto avoided, and one result of His Excellency's uncompromising firmness will probably be the recognition of their responsibility, and perhaps an attempt to observe it, especially as the governor of the Province of Kwangtung and Kwangsi has given his formal approval of the measures to which the Chinese have expressed an objection. Of one thing (His Excellency remarks) they may be certain, that as soon as these measures are proclaimed to be law, those who disobey them will be punished. Public opinion here is entirely with His Excellency in the steps the local government have adopted; we have not the slightest doubt that the home government will endorse his action, in which case Sir Richard MacDonnell will have the gratification of knowing that under his direction foreign commerce on the Chinese seas will be rendered safer, and the lesson effectually taught to the Chinese cabinet that treaties with foreign powers must not be disregarded by them. Too much toleration of Chinese prejudices for the sake of trade is a fault that requires a strong remedy, which we believe is provided in the Ordinances for which we have to thank His Excellency; and if force should become necessary to impress it on the Chinese, to make them understand it, why force should be employed.

THE CHINESE DEPUTATION ON THE STAMP ACT AND ORDINANCES.

The deputation of Chinese waited Saturday afternoon on His Excellency the Governor, and read the memorial memorial. A translation of it has already appeared, but the version is incorrect. We therefore present it in the form in which it will be preserved as an historical document:—

To His Excellency The Governor of Hongkong.

The Petition of all the Merchants of Hongkong, viz.: Gold and Silver Dealers, Rice Factors, Opium Sellers, Traders with the North and South of China, and Dealers in Piece Goods:—

HUMBLE SHEWETH:

That since the new Ordinance is an obstructive and inconvenient one, we have joined together to do us the favor of altogether annulling it and making up the deficiency in the Revenue instead by a tax which is agreeable to the Community and convenient for the Merchants.

We now humbly receive from His Excellency's hands a new Ordinance established for the purpose of levying a percentage by means of a "Stamp Act"—which requires the affixing of a Stamp on Leases, Receipts and Payments, Purchases and Sales, Contracts, and also on Chinese and foreign Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Agreements—according to the amount of each a proportionate Stamp must be affixed.

Looking at the various kinds of trades carried on, on all sides, and the very extensive Commerce of this Colony, we find therein trades which are brisk and trades which are dull.

Within the last years the profits of trade have been very small—in many cases the yearly expenditure in shops and house rent, servants' wages and food, is greater than the profits.

The shops have been established for many years, and it is impossible for them to close at once, so that they are often obliged to manage as well as they can, and keep their business afloat—consequently the business connected with Remittances and Promissory Notes, Receipts and Payments, is much more difficult in comparison to former years. Seeing that these men are already suffering under the pressure of difficulties, if Your Excellency in addition imposes the Stamp Act on them the burden will indeed be oppressive.

The business of paying and receiving money in a Merchant's house every day is even now a work of great labour, but when we have in addition to fix a Stamp on all Receipts and Payments, the work will indeed be perplexing. Hereafter corrupt practices will grow up apace. Each Merchant cannot avoid being discouraged when he sees such a state of affairs and consequently there will be a great hindrance to trade.

With regard to compelling Householders to register their names and address, Your Excellency's object was no doubt to drive away thieves and bad characters from the Colony. The new Ordinance however requires Householders to find security for their living in their houses, or else they will be fined. Now the Merchants in Hongkong carry on an honest and upright trade and merely attend to their own business, how can they well be responsible for the good conduct of any persons who may be occupying part of their houses? If

Your Excellency compels us to give security, it will be a most coercive measure. It only requires a vigilant watch to be kept to enable the Colony to enjoy peace and quietness.

With regard to compelling Chinese Servants who are in the employ of Europeans to take out Licenses, for the purpose of distinguishing those intentionally and those who unintentionally do wrong and punishing them accordingly, we beg to say that all Servants have their Masters and therefore it can be always ascertained when they do wrong. Servants are paid very small wages and if they are always to be fined they will be unable to pay and therefore the greater number will have to go to prison instead and the Government will thus be deprived of its Revenue.

With regard to compelling Money Changers to take out Licenses, we beg to say that the capital that they begin with is very small, not exceeding in most cases a Hundred Dollars, and their yearly profits are just sufficient to keep them in food. With so little money how will they be able to pay the Government Fees?

The Ordinance says that a tax will be laid on Cattle and Pigs. Now cattle are raised in large quantities both by Europeans and Chinese, and if a tax is laid on Cattle, meat will consequently become very dear and cause inconvenience both to the buyer and seller.

We find that our houses are to be inspected by a Medical Officer and if found dirty we are to be fined or imprisoned. A great number of the houses are inhabited by the wives and families of Merchants, and it is for their own interest to keep their houses clean. If a Medical Officer is to be constantly coming into our houses and inspecting them he will alarm the inmates and especially the female portion thereof.

If every Junk that comes or goes out of the Harbour is to report herself and to give a correct description of her cargo and passengers, and is not to be allowed to leave till an appointed hour, we consider that this will cause a great hindrance to trade. These last two Regulations will cause the greatest inconvenience and at the same time bring a very small Revenue to the Colony.

We humbly think that Your Excellency's wish in the Government of the Colony is to protect the good and punish the bad. If a Revenue is to be collected by the imposition of the taxes in these Ordinances, it will bring the greatest hardships on your petitioners which they are unable to bear, and will as it were do their hands and prevent them from coming forward.

When your Honorable Government first established this Colony it was its object to make the place agreeable to the Chinese.

When your Honorable Government wishes to raise a Revenue it always carefully considers what is the best thing to lay a tax upon. We beg to suggest that money may be raised by laying a tax on house rent and ground rent. We the Merchants and Traders of Hongkong, have thought right to come forward in a body to humbly beg that Your Excellency in consideration of the difficulties of trade will annul these new Ordinances, and thus meet the wishes of the Merchants and quiet their minds. With regard to imposing a tax on ground rent and house rent we will await Your Excellency's decision as to whether it shall take effect or not.

If Your Excellency thinks fit to grant our prayer we will unite together in returning thanks for Your Excellency's kindness.

Submitted to His Excellency the Governor.

Hongkong, 5th September, 1886.

Stamped with the Seal of Chinese Mercantile House and Shops.

Before handing his reply to the Deputation His Excellency stated that, with a view to prevent future misapprehensions, he must impress on all Chinese Residents the propriety of observing the same Rules as to presentation of Memorials and Addresses, as were imposed on Residents in other Colonies. Those Rules require a copy of every Memorial intended for presentation to be first sent in to the proper officer, with a request that a day might be named for its reception. It was obvious that much inconvenience would otherwise result from presenting addresses without notice. The misstatements which had had general currency relative to the brief interview of His Excellency with the memorialists on the 5th ultimo, sufficiently proved the impropriety of departing from the usual practice in such cases. The following reply was then handed to the deputation by His Excellency—printed both in English and Chinese:—

When you waited on me with a Memorial on the 3th of last month I told you I was sorry you had not brought a translation of it with you. I afterwards got that Memorial translated by the Government Interpreter; but nevertheless wished to see whether you would not of yourselves present me a translation, that we might together discuss the topics adverted to in the Memorial. Though you did not do so, I find you have made such great mistakes in speaking of certain new Laws that it may be useful if I point out some of those mistakes.

Many Chinese have lived here for years. They must have learnt that the Queen of England's Officers never molest or trouble peaceful residents under the English Flag, and should know better than to speak of any Law here as "obstructive" and "oppressive." You yourselves must have seen that great pains are taken to administer the Law with strict justice, and that, if it were not for Chinese thieves, pirates, and other bad characters, this Government would not have the expense of such a numerous Police, and such extensive prisons. Fifty police would suffice to keep the European Population in order.

It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that the great expense incurred by this Government on your account should require its Revenue to be increased.

Nevertheless you, who cause this outlay, complain of a new Law, which instead of making you pay for the expense which the Chinese entail, treats all Europeans and Chinese alike—by imposing a light tax on the business of all, and in such an equitable manner that those who must pay the most are those who have the largest business. Why should an Englishman pay a Duty, and a Chinese not pay his proportion of the tax, though his house and property are protected and his street drained and paved by Government?

I do not think you wish such an unjust difference made between you and Europeans; I believe simply that you drew up your Memorial, without understanding the nature of the proposed tax, and indeed your spokesman on the last occasion admitted he knew nothing about it.

You say however, a "Stamp on Receipts, and Bills and Promissory Notes" would be an "oppressive burden" and "perplexing."

You might say with more truth that Stamps on letters—which every one now thinks so convenient—are "perplexing and oppressive" because different distances and destinations require a great variety of letter Stamps, whereas by the new Ordinance only one sort of Stamp is necessary for each class of those transactions, which occur frequently in the current of ordinary mercantile business, such as Promissory Notes, Bills of Exchange, Receipts, Bills of Lading and the like.

Why cannot every merchant keep in his house a small supply of the Stamped Paper and Stamps required for each of those transactions, and why do you wish me to suppose you so stupid as to be perplexed by a matter so plain? I cannot believe what is absurd.

There are many thousands of Chinese at Singapore, where they have a Stamp Act with three times as many complications and Articles as the short and simple Ordinance, of which you complain here. Why cannot you write to your Chinese friends at Singapore, and inquire whether their business is perplexed by the long and intricate Act? I think they will reply that they understand it as well as Europeans, and although they would rather have no tax at all, that they would greatly prefer the Hongkong Ordinance to the Singapore Stamp Act.

Even supposing that you find at first some difficulty as to Stamps on Leases, Deeds, and Conveyances, there is seldom any hurry about them, and they often are about Bills, whilst, being generally managed with professional advice, it is not true that your current daily business will be impeded thereby.

You ask, however, to pay an increased House Rate instead of a Stamp Duty. Is it just that Houses, which now pay more than \$200,000 per annum, should bear all the burden? The general business of the place has never yet continued anything directly to its expenses. Now under the Stamp Ordinance, those who have no chance of making profit by business will pay nothing. The poor who have only their labor would, under your plan, be soon made to bear your legitimate burden, because if rates were increased, you would charge more for rent. The new Ordinance therefore is more just than you. It also reaches in its operation many, who, though not residing in Hongkong, yet use Hongkong as their chief Mart of business, whereas your plan would throw on those who accidentally reside here, all the cost of maintaining the Quays, Roads, Police and Harbor, which frequently facilitate the business of absentees just as much as of residents.

When the new Law comes into force I hope you will find in less than one month that your alarm and apprehensions were groundless, but if experience shows that the operation of the Law can be made more simple and easy, I shall readily assist to improve it.

I have been particular in giving you these explanations of the nature of the new Stamp Ordinance because in a matter of public policy, intended to deal with all classes alike, I wish foreigners to see that such intention is really carried out. I am ready, therefore, to discuss such Legislation with any body of sensible men, and to hear objections, and if I think them unfounded, to explain why I do so.

All this however is very different from permitting those who resort here for their own profit and for the protection which the strong and just Government of England affords, to discuss or cavil at Laws necessary for Police and sanitary purposes, and for protection of the lives and property of the Queen's Subjects. Those laws must be obeyed, and cannot be relaxed. None know better than yourselves how necessary it is at last to adopt stringent measures, too long deferred, for checking the nefarious dealing carried on by Chinese residents here with pirates, and for that purpose to take care that the Government has in future full information of the equipment and movements of all Chinese junk vessels visiting the harbor.

To complain of such an Ordinance is to complain that Europeans are not willing to be robbed and murdered by Chinese miscreants; and I tell you frankly that I shall pay no attention to such unreasonable remonstrances. I shall continue to do my duty, as Governor of an English Settlement, and shall, to the utmost of my power, endeavor to rid this Colony of the stigma affixed to it by the numerous Chinese thieves and pirates who visit it. Fortunately there is also a still more numerous body of hard-working and trustworthy Chinese Residents, and I look to them for important assistance in dealing with their countrymen. How absurd your objections are reckoned even by your own Countrymen will more fully appear when I tell you that a person, who understands the Chinese character and customs perfectly, heartily approves of the measure, and of the results of some of its provisions could be more stringent. I think you will admit that his opinion on such a subject ought to carry weight with Chinese when I tell you he was no other than His Excellency the Governor General of the Province of Kwangtung and Kwangsi.

I might decline to go further into your objections to Police Laws, in reference to which you have only one duty, namely, that of obedience; but I wish to serve you and cannot do so more effectually than by correcting misapprehensions, which are unreasonably disquieting some industrious and well disposed persons.

Thus your complaint that Chinese vessels must report on entering and leaving the harbor is simply a complaint that at last we put you on the same footing as Europeans—who even in their own country have to make full reports on entering and leaving a harbor, whether they enter once or a hundred times in a year. It is a regulation intended to protect peaceful and honest trade by affording some guarantee of the legitimate character of the vessels which frequent the Port—and before long I hope to see it adopted at all Chinese Ports in these Seas. What other mode is there of getting the information required? Therefore, in the face of the shocking piracy recently committed by vessels fitted out by residents of this City, I would regard your objections as discreditable and in bad taste if I thought you fully understood their tendency.

In the same way I observe that you regard as onerous the slight Duty cast on you in order to preserve the peace and health of a City, in which there are fifty Chinese to one European. Is it a hard time if the Queen's Government should expect those who live under the British Flag, to assist in maintaining order?

It is impossible that Europeans can know the character of your countrymen as well as you do, and therefore it is right and na-

tural that we should see Householders to take some little about his local country you would be the conduct of persons, and frequently all members of your family, any crime, whether real or at a distance.

As for the security required from non-residents and need not be rendered right there should be their houses becoming the resort of thieves and

I equally regard as a violation to the registration of Europeans, a where so many robbery by servants, and one advantage to all themselves well. I speak of a payment of a registration Certificate, which any improper conduct might last 20 years, as driving servants in the United Kingdom have not unit that you have not study the Ordinance.

The same observation section that any law posing a "tax" on a has been no tax whatever but it has been provided shall not keep pigs within town. I am sorry, if it interferes with the comfort have observed with the City's elders and deacons. Nevertheless this is not a Chinese town, to establish English discipline, both as a sign of measure especially need—and in districts so close the principal Chinese.

The number of pigs though sufficient in so the atmosphere and very will have to be entirely supplied from

You must therefore

ments as you best assist you therein.

Even in the matter from the Health Officer make a distinction between

ans. I must however with surprise and regret possible any Officer of the Government, could money, or so as to feelings of residents.

Keep your houses clean, smells, and try that you the same. That much power, and, if you troubled with many Officer. The Registrar to visit every room in never heard that any plain the mode in which that duty.

One thing I wish remember, viz. that whatever between the the other laws to which Stamp Ordinance is Revenue of the Colony are intended to improve the health of the people, and nearly 28,000 Dollars it can possibly receive.

I believe however to well spent, and that both a safer and much so that, I hope proportionately increase here become more val-

If I ask and expect you in accomplishing these assist in spreading the intentions and pro Ordinances? Of one thing be certain they are proclaimed who disobey them will

THERE is one sentence cle this morning when agree. It is to the Chinese, and that "they see government not a ben highly civilised solely for the public incompetent government the facilities which the assesses for directly the Chinese, it is that their inordinance reign government become strengthened English in particular tently of late, from "pedit" to the leading ing, it has been: fashion to indulge in langua signed, to create an intensify among natu spect for Governor and have been a-sured that "all trace of re- ment is swallowed anger;" that it "w posed among foreign abstinence from Sta brately violate the error's policy would the prosperity of a matter of history a macy of Venice; th destructive, and ind gloomy adjectives frighten people and Excellency's near the slightest doubt denunciations w by which our cente dresses the Chinese ton as well as in their impression of government. It ened by the tone ule, which would be critism on the de of a London poor lary humiliating to China, not only tr siveness to Her Ma but also from the displays of how the may best be reach-

There is no Bri world that occupies tion, relatively to powers, as that mul A trading station me

The following, from the *Mechanic's Magazine*, will be interesting to mariners—Few things are more annoying to the mariner than the compass variation which, especially in the navigation of iron ships, has to be provided against. An extremely simple and ingenious mode of ascertaining the deviation has, however, been devised by a Naval Commander connected with the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, United States, which will remove all difficulty in the matter:—It is proposed to take an ordinary compass card, and erect upon its centre a fine copper wire, from 4in to 6in or 8in in height, and perpendicular to its plane. At the moment of the sun's meridian passage, as indicated by the noon observation for latitude, note the direction of the shadow cast by the wire on the compass card. The angle contained between the direction and that of the north and south line of the card will give the variation and local attraction combined. Small errors are involved in this method, but the approximation is close enough for the purposes for which it is intended. As there would, of course, be no difficulty in making this wire a permanent fixture to the card, it

The first week of the
of constant excitement
some fresh proclamations
demands. To ask
perfectly infamous, and
what a state of mind
and tradespeople. A
of this demand every
and for three days
scarcely to be recognized
The threat of pillage
town is now disavowed
journals, as a report
panic it caused among
sufficient guarantee for

cent. Computed by Mr JOHN V. YATMAN,
New York.
PRICE ONE DOLLAR.
"China Mail" Office,
12th May, 1864.

SHANGHAI.

Steamers	Am at	70	Apr, 12	H. Egg and Co	Laid up
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China	Silvermoon	B. str.	25	July 17	Frautmann and Co	Laid up	
China	Almooney	B. str.	345	July 17	How and Co	Fulchrau	Early
City of States	Stewart	B. str.	600	Aug. 24	Lover and Co	Laid up	
Columbian			30	Aug. 18	Hines Government		
Haut	Gray	Am. str.	1200	Aug. 20	Kaiser and Co		
Fish-long	Brady	A. str.	300	Aug. 24	W. O. S. N. Co		
Pine Queen	Andrew	B. str.	30	Aug. 24	Wm. Fustau and Co	Laid up	
Qian-Gan	Constock	B. str.	30	Sept. 1	Capt. Pettidge		
Hechaw	Chist	B. str.	791	July 12	Shannon, Sons and Co		
L. Ma	Peake	C. str.	624	July 12	Stephenson, Sons and Co		
Nippon	B. str.	30	Aug. 18	Stephenson, Sons and Co			
San-long	B. str.	30	Aug. 18	Stephenson, Sons and Co			
Ont. Quatre	Chitney	C. str.	624	July 12	Hines Government		
Shanyuan	Am. str.	30	Aug. 18	Frautmann and Co	Laid up		
Swawonda	Jayne	B. str.	1602	Aug. 18	Harrod and Co		
Yan	Lawson	B. str.	180	Aug. 24	Tarrant and Co	Laid up	
Yaleu	Randell	B. str.	180	Aug. 27	H. Wignall and Co	Fulchrau	Immatt.
Wan-Loung-Fie	Merrills	B. str.	45	Sept. 10	Co. Barnes and Co	Laid up	
Whampoa	Barro	B. str.	115	Aug. 18	Shannon, Sons and Co	Laid up	
Williamette	McLeod	Chist	176	Aug. 5	Shannon Government		
Sailing Vessels							
Abbott Lawrence	Lawrence	Am. sh.	1496	June 13	Order		
Acadia	Martin	C. bk.	391	July 16	Order		
Agassamenon	George	B. sh.	989	June 9	Far. Matheson and Co	London	Early
Akisk	Scott	B. sh.	205	Aug. 19	John Taitou		
Alexander	Deemster	B. sh.	295	July 30	L. R. Tilly and Co		
Ann Adamson	Hutton	B. bk.	504	July 19	Frazier and Co	London	Early
Antelope	Hale	B. sh.	1180	July 10	Oliphant and Co	F. or charter	
Antipodes	Woodruff	A. sh.	592	June 24	James Brothers and Co	London	Immatt.
Arabia	Smith	C. sh.	1410	July 16	Order		
Ascension	Lobo	B. bk.	517	Aug. 9	A. R. Tilly and Co		
Aurora Australis	Todd	B. sh.	665	Aug. 25	Slaw, Brothers and Co	F. or charter	
Banda	Morris	B. sh.	481	July 15	Slaw, Slaw and Co		
Bombardier	Dunbar	B. sh.	30	July 15	Chalmers Drogue and Co	Nagasaki	Early
Bengal	Petersen	sw. bk.	30	July 14	Horne Company	Tientsin	Early
Bolivia	Russell	B. sh.	48	Aug. 23			
Burmah	Fulton	C. bk.	1171	July 18	E. S. Livingston and Co		
Calcutta			1095	Aug. 13	Edes and Co		

Canton	Asuman	B. bk	309	Aug 14	Bour., Hubener and Co
London	Asuman	H. bk	500	July 7	Smith, Kennedy and Co

Chaplove	Am. sh.	1086	Aug. 10	Order		
Christie	Am. sh.	1086	Aug. 10	Order		
Christopher Hall	Am. sh.	942	Aug. 8	Aug. heard Co		
Christian Rankin	d. bk.	330	Aug. 8	Wm. Rennie and Co		
Cingali	d. bk.	763	Aug. 8	12 Fraser and Co		
Clyde Nelson	d. bk.	663	Aug. 10	13 Matheson and Co		
Claro Bayanan	d. bk.	357	Aug. 10	Order		
Darmouth	d. bk.	923	Aug. 8	12 G. Livingston and Co	London	Early
David Bondage	D. ar.	87	Aug. 8	13 Pustau and Co		
Dipassand	B. bk.	624	July 21	16 Smith, Kennedy and Co		
Duck	Lorenzo	d. bk.	145	July 19	P. R. Camo and Co	Laid up
Dunkan	d. bk.	699	Aug. 10	16 Smith, Kennedy and Co		
Edith Davidson	d. bk.	850	July 8	Order		
Ellen Stafford	Evans	d. bk.	807	Aug. 14	14 Siemens and Co	
Elizabeth	d. bk.	442	Aug. 9	A. R. Rily and Co		F. or charter
Emerald	d. bk.	607	Aug. 8	12 J. J. Lorenz and Co		
Estine	d. bk.	398	May 11	11 A. Hubner and Co		Repairing
Fantlet	Hudson	d. sh.	713	Aug. 2	Fraser and Co	
General Caulfields	Richards	d. bk.	647	July 2	17 P. R. Crenell and Co	
George Canning	B. bk.	411	Aug. 8	12 A. R. Rily and Co		
Tipperary	Fullerton	d. bk.	250	July 9	A. R. Rily and Co	F. or charter
Georgia	Ponck	d. bk.	430	July 9	A. R. Rily and Co	
Gordon State	Am. sh.	914	Aug. 8	12 J. J. Lorenz and Co		
Helena	Knaflten	P. bk.	315	Aug. 13	Wm. Pustau and Co	
Hollandia	Deline	Am. sh.	450	July 7	Fraser - ad Co	
Hudson	Nye	Am. sh.	232	July 20	Captain	
Jack Mitchell	Bulman	d. bk.	181	Aug. 1	18 J. J. Lorenz and Co	F. or charter
James & Joseph	Eurbaum	P. ar.	145	Aug. 5	Dent and Co	Early
John Hall	Goodall	d. bk.	248	Aug. 7	A. R. Rily and Co	
John Bull	Harris	d. bk.	481	July 7	G. Livingston and Co	Liverpool
John Bull	Harris	d. bk.	481	July 7	G. Livingston and Co	London
John Bull	Harris	d. bk.	481	July 7	G. Livingston and Co	Early
John Stanton	N. bk.	724	June 20	Fraser and Co		F. or charter
Knights of Snowdon	Richardson	d. sh.	653	June 18	Born's Company	London
L. Werge	Bejnier	d. bk.	248	Aug. 8	12 J. J. Lorenz and Co	Helsinki
L. Werge	Bejnier	d. bk.	248	Aug. 7	F. R. Knes and Co	Early
L. Werge	Bejnier	d. bk.	248	Aug. 7	Order	
Lizzio Allen	Dunn	d. bk.	325	July 2	Order	

sk.	463	June 20	Frazier
sk.	489	July 29	D. sus
sh.	545	July 4	Smith

Mr. Mary Jane	Johnson	b. s.	132	Aug 12	Rowe and Co	
Mattida	b. dp.	231	Aug 12	Rowe and Co		
Monter Puhnd	Lapes	b. s.	286	June 27	P. F. Kross and Co	F. or charter
All-sella	Struce	b. s.	721	July 19	Therrie and Co	
Ngam	Aress	Fr. bk.	200	July 19	Therrie and Co	F. or charter
Orang	A. s.	730	July 19	Thompson, Knig and Co		
Pantalon	Von griff	Du. bk.	269	July 14	Thomson and Co	
Pauline	Tournyck	b. bk.	600	July 12	Stewart	
Perit	b. ar.	267	May 21	Tients and Co	Left up	Early
Pomigas	Gutier	b. bk.	939	July 22	J. J. Matheson and Co	London
Princes of Wales	Harson	b. bk.	358	Aug 7	Matheson Sons and Co.	
Queen of the Seas	b. bk.	738	July 19	Matheson and Co		
R. D. Drum	b. s.	691	Aug 9	Matheson		
Scindia	Carr	b. bk.	897	Aug 8	Smith, Kennedy and Co	
Sea With	Hicks	b. s.	376	June 26	Stewart and Co	F. or charter
St. Oswald	Orayale	b. s.	650	June 26	Stewart and Co	
Sir W. F. Williams	Hudson	b. s.	870	July 22	Shaw, Brothers and Co	London
Song Kong	Kinn	b. s.	183	Aug 9	Shaw, Brothers and Co	Early
Toscan	Lewis	b. s.	117	Mar. 25	Blaim, Tate and Co	Liverpool
Tyeon	Mutter	b. bk.	352	June 4	C. J. Livingston and Co	Early New York
Westminster	Cobb	b. s.	731	June 24	Shaw, S. Kennedy and Co	Early London
Wild Duckrell	Doeh	b. ar.	15	July 14	Doeh	
Wild Duckrell	Doeh	b. s.	1016	June 22	J. J. Matheson and Co	
Wild Gazelle	Lewis	am. bk.	415	July 31	A. J. Auer, Pearl and Co	
Wilhelm Melhuish	Duncan	b. s.	707	June 24	Bullfinch Wise and Co	London
						Early

W. B. M. Ships in the China Squadron.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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NAME.	Rtg.	GUNS.	H.P.	CAPTAIN.	WHERE AT.
Acorn,	store ship	—	—	—	Shanghai
Adventure,	c. Troop ship	4	400	C. L. Waddilove	Yokohama
Algerine,	st. gun-ves.	1	80	—	Hankow
Argus,	pad. stn. sloop	6	300	Comr. J. Round	Japan
Barclay,	cc. st. g. b.	3	60	Lieut. Tonkin	Hongkong
Barrosa,	c. stn. corvt.	21	400	apt. Boys	Ordered Home
Basilik,	c. stn. sloop	4	100	W. N. W. Hewitt V.C.	Shanghai
Bonnet, Steam Ord.	cc. st. g. b.	3	60	Lieut. Macquay	Japan
Bostard,	gun-boat	3	60	—	Hongkong
Cockshier,	gun-boat	3	60	Lieut. Howard Kerr	Japan
Comarant,	cc. st. gun. ves.	4	200	Comr. G. D. Broad	—
Comandant,	pad. st. tender	3	180	—	Hongkong
Dove, Steam ordinary,	gun-boat	3	60	—	Swatow
Draht,	gun-boat	3	40	LT. Hunt	Hongkong
Firm,	gun-boat	3	60	Lieut. Eaton	Ningpo
Flamer, Steam Ordinary,	gun-boat	3	60	—	Japan
Forester,	gun-boat	3	60	Lieut. J. E. Stokes	Hongkong
Grasshopper	gun-boat	3	60	Lieut. J. C. Patterson	Ningpo
Hardy,	cc. st. g. b.	3	60	Lieut. Morley	Canton
Haughty,	gun-boat	3	60	Lieut. Singleton	Chinkiang
Havock,	gun-boat	3	60	Lieut. Laird	Japan
Heeper,	troop ship	4	150	Staff Com. Thain	Japan
Island,	gun-boat	3	60	Lieut. G. T. Nicolas	Yokohama
Jenny,	gun-boat	3	40	Lieut. C. W. Johnson	Shanghai
Leven, Steam Ordinary,	gun- vessel	1	80	—	Hongkong
Manila,	acc. m. disp. ves.	—	70	Jno. R. Ryan (Master)	—
McIlvlie, Naval Hospital,	hosp.	—	—	Brit. Bernard, M.D. &c.	—

60	Lieut. Mainwaring	Cruizing
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Quincy,	g. vessel	4	200	Comr. Menzies	Cruizing
Deoras,	mc. strm. covr.	21	400	Capt. Haswell	Yokohama
Perseus,	sc. st. ship	17	200	Comr. Stevens	Hongkong
Princess Charlotte,	receiving ship.	12		Comdore Oliver Jones	Yokohama
Princess Royal, Bear-					
ing the flag of Vice-	mc. line of ba. sh.	73	400	Apt. W. G. Jones	Yokohama
Admiral (Gen. Sir)					
Vincent King, C. B.					
Rottler,	mc. st. sloop	17	10	Comr. Webb	Singapore
Riddleman,	sc. Survey ves.	5	100	J. W. Reed	Chief of South Ch.
Yokohama	paid despatch	2	200	Comr. G. Sottile	Nagasaki
Scylla,	sc. strm. covr.	12	400	Capt. R. W. Courtney	Hankow
Serpent,	mc. despatch vessel	4	200	Comr. C. H. Bullock	Envoy. serv. Japan
Shaney,	gun-bont.	1	80	Lieut. J. P. Keats	Chinkingfoo
Smpp,	gun-bont.	3	80	Lieut. Powys	Tientsin
Starling, Steam Ordinary,	gun-bont.	3	60		Shanghai
Staunch, Steam Ordinary,	gun-bont.	3	60		Hongkong
Watchful, Steam Or-	gun-bont.	3	40		Hongkong
dinary,					
Wasp,	sc. st. g.b.	3	60	Lt. Doughty	Shanghai
Woodcock, Steam Or-	gun-bont.	3	40		Hongkong
dinary,					
Taurus	stern sloop	3	150	Comr. S. P. Townsend	Hongkong

British Vice-Consul
Whampoa, Canton